

Message Text

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67

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

DOT-00 STR-08 DRC-01 /196 W
----- 120230

R 302330Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1849
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL SYDNEY
AMCONSUL BRISBANE
AMCONSUL PERTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L MELBOURNE 1118

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, AS

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN VIEWS OF AMERICAN SCENE AND
AUSTRALIAN-US RELATIONS; AMBASSADOR GREEN'S
OCTOBER 29-30 VISIT TO MELBOURNE

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR'S SPEECH TO ANNUAL NATIONAL
CONVENTION OF SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERS OF
AUSTRALASIA, CLOSED DOOR DINNER DISCUSSION WITH TOP-
LEVEL AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS AND OTHER LEADERS INFLUENTIAL
IN COUNTRY AND LIBERAL PARTIES IN MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY,
BREAKFAST MEETING WITH VICTORIA TRADES HALL COUNCIL
OFFICIALS AND ALL-AFTERNOON SESSION WITH AMERICAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WERE HIGHLIGHTS OF AMBASSADOR'S
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EFFECTIVE TWO-DAY SCHEDULE IN MELBOURNE. END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR MADE DEFINITIVE SPEECH (SEE OCTOBER 26 WIRELESS FILE NO. 207) OCTOBER 29 BEFORE SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERS ON ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MULTI-NATIONAL FIRMS AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT, AS WELL AS OF HOST COUNTRIES. SUBSEQUENT CORRIDOR COMMENT AMONG AUDIENCE PARTICULARLY NOTED FACT THAT AMBASSADOR'S ADDRESS WAS CHAIRED AND INTRODUCED BY NO LESS THAN AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CHIEF SIR ALAN WESTERMAN WHO, IN PUBLICLY THANKING AMBASSADOR, ASSOCIATED HIMSELF FULLY WITH AMBASSADOR'S POINTS.

3. BREAKFAST MEETING WITH VICTORIA TRADES HALL COUNCIL OFFICIALS CLOSE TO LABOR PARTY (ALP) AND ACTU PRESIDENT BOB HAWKE, REFLECTED LABOR'S CONCERN WITH AUSTRALIA'S INFLATION AND ATTENDANT LABOR UNREST. THE SECRETARY KEN STONE, NEVERTHELESS, FORECASTED PRIVATELY THAT GOA INCOME (WAGES) CONTROL REFERENDUM DECEMBER 8 WILL BE REJECTED BY VOTERS, AND THAT SIMULTANEOUS PRICE CONTROL REFERENDUM (CONTRARY TO BELIEF OF MANY AUSTRALIANS) WILL ALSO BE REJECTED.

4. CLOSED DOOR SESSION CONVENED BY INFLUENTIAL COUNTRY AND LIBERAL PARTY LEADERS FROM BOTH MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY FOR OFF-THE-RECORD EXCHANGE WITH AMBASSADOR, CENTERED ON AUSTRALIAN-US RELATIONS AND INEVITABLY LED TO DISCUSSION OF WATERGATE AND ITS AFTERMATH. LORD CASEY (PERHAPS AUSTRALIA'S MOST DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN) PAID HIGH TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT NIXON, AS DID OTHERS. SIR JOHN MCEWEN (UNTIL RECENTLY LEADER OF COUNTRY PARTY) SUMMARIZED DISCUSSION BY SAYING THAT CREDIBILITY ISSUE STIRRED UP BY THE PRESS SEEMED AKIN TO SOMEONE'S LISTENING AT A KEY HOLE FOR INCIDENTAL GOSSIP WHEN THE REAL ISSUE IS WORLD SECURITY. HE SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD HONORABLY ENDED THE WAR FOR US AND ITS ALLIES IN VIETNAM, HAD OPENED RELATIONS WITH CHINA, AND HAD BROADENED ALL OF OUR HORIZONS IN WORLD AFFAIRS. AUSTRALIA, HE SAID, CAN ACT IN ITS SELF INTEREST FOR THE DEFENSE OF FREEDOM ONLY IN CONCERT WITH THE UNITED STATES. AN
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ADEQUATE DEFENSE CAPABILITY IS A PREREQUISITE TO SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION WITH ADVERSARIES. HE SPOKE FOR THOSE PRESENT IN SAYING THAT THEY WANT THE UNITED STATES AND THE PRESIDENT TO KNOW THAT, WHATEVER THE PRESENT GOA MAY SAY, A BODY OF INFLUENTIAL LEADERS IN AUSTRALIA FEEL THIS WAY ABOUT PRESIDENT NIXON'S FAR-SIGHTEDNESS, COURAGE AND ACHIEVEMENTS.
FLUKER

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